

# Enfield Clean Energy Newsletter

## The Committee

The Enfield Clean Energy Committee is a Town Committee made up of Enfield Residents interested in promoting Clean Renewable Energy.

### The team members:

Jeff Myjak—Chair  
Ray Gwozdz - V. Chair  
Virginia Higley  
Steve Moriarty  
Greg Mark  
Doug Lombardi

### LIAISONS :

Town Council:  
Tom Kienzler

Staff:  
Joel Cox

Interested in joining our team? Send a note to [CleanEnergy@Enfield.org](mailto:CleanEnergy@Enfield.org) and we will send you an application.



## Points:

When we reach 200 points, we will be 1 step closer to getting a 2kw solar system.

Each Clean Option purchase is worth 1 point. Each Solar or Geothermal system is worth 3points.

Clean Option Points	<b>170</b>
System Points	<b>87</b>
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>257</b>

## Volume 1, Issue 9

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## Enfield is Saving Energy

What a summer !!!! Enfield has seen a record number of solar installations.

In July, the town unveiled their new LED walkway lights around Freshwater Pond. The replacement of the 21 lights from Route 5 leading to the pond that is about to begin, is going to save taxpayers \$2,200 a year. For safety reasons, the lights needed to be replaced.

Had the town used the same type of light, each one draws 285 watts per hour. Based on our committee's recommendation, the town went with LED lights that only draw 116 watts. The savings of 169 watts, times 3,600 hours per year, times 21 lights, times the current electric rate will generate the \$2,200 of

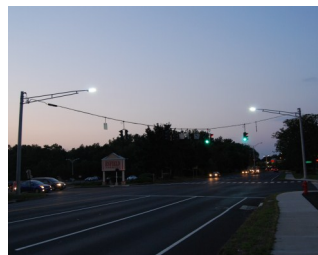
savings.



In February 2009, the Town was awarded \$98,000 from HUD for streetscape improvements along North Main Street consistent with the Freshwater Pond Park Master Plan. Repair to the pedestrian pathway, improved lighting, installation of benches and trash receptacles, and enhancement of the overall natural landscape. The completed project will encourage the "liveable,

walkable village center" from route 5 to the riverfront, and will greatly compliment future Transit Oriented Development.

The new LED street lights at the corner of Cranbrook and Freshwater.



What are you doing to reduce your energy bill? Tell us and we may feature you in an upcoming article. [cleanenergy@enfield.org](mailto:cleanenergy@enfield.org)

## Winter is coming—are you ready?

Winter is almost here. Are you ready for another power outage? A standby generator just may be the solution. But just how much do they cost?

A permanent standby generator, wired to your electrical panel, can do all of that. It's a shock, certainly, to owners of noisy, gas-gulping portable generators who thought they've been living the good life during the current outage by powering a space heater, refrigerator and a compact fluorescent bulb off the grid.

After two massive outages in

two months, Connecticut residents are starting to think big and pay out for an always-ready, no-fuss standby generator

A standby generator looks something like a capped central air-conditioning compressor, only slightly louder and more expensive. Where a 3,250-watt portable might cost \$320 and a 10,000-watt model closer to \$1,200 at Home Depot, a high-quality 20-kilowatt standby — that's 20,000 watts — costs about \$4,000. Installation could more than double the cost. If 20 kilowatts and \$8,000-plus are too much, think smaller. A

standby generator rated between 7 kilowatts and 10 kilowatts could cost less than \$3,000 and power basic essentials without the constant refueling and messy wiring of a portable.

Here are few things to know about standby generators:

>> Get an onsite survey from the installer. Tell him exactly what you want powered. A 20-kilowatt machine should take care of everything, including must-haves in winter (furnace) and summer (5-ton central air compressor).

Cont pg 2—see Generator

## CLEAN ENERGY OPTION FAQ'S

**Q:** I signed up with Sterling Planet to supply my clean energy options. They are no longer participating in the program. Does the town still get credit?

**A.** Yes. Even though they no longer participate in the program, the town will still get the credit.

**Q.** When I enroll in the program, how much of the energy comes from outside the Northeast?

**A.** None. Because of the success of this Clean Energy Option program, they have reinvested it into the Northeast. Enough so, that now all of our needs are met here. But there is still more investment needed. We are still relying on coal and oil to supply some of our electricity. Those need to be replaced by local clean renewable sources.

**Q:** I have a question that may be of interest to your readers. Is there a place where I can send it?

**A.** Yes. Send it to [cleanenergy@enfield.org](mailto:cleanenergy@enfield.org). We will be happy to answer it in an upcoming newsletter.

[www.enfieldcleanenergy.net](http://www.enfieldcleanenergy.net)

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Clean  
Energy**

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## Ct Clean Energy Financing program to launch in 2013

The quasi-public agency that oversees Connecticut's investments in renewable power is preparing to debut a program that will establish a financing mechanism that could make it more attractive for owners of commercial and industrial buildings to use clean energy.

Officials with the state's Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority say they expect to launch the program early next year.

The program will allow commercial and industrial property owners to pay for energy-related improvements to their properties using a finance program that offers low fixed rates and longer repayment periods than traditional loans.

Under C-PACE, the cost of an energy project may be funded by special financing arranged through CEFIA and repaid annually by the property owner through a special "benefit" assessment on their property tax bill.

C-PACE spreads the cost of energy improvements over the expected life of the measures and allows the repayment obli-

gation to transfer automatically, like other property assessments, to the next owner if the property is sold.

Benefit assessments are a common municipal finance tool that has been used for many projects, including street paving, water and sewer systems and street lighting.

CEFIA will serve as the C-PACE program administrator, working to support communities, commercial and industrial companies and financial institutions to implement the program.

In addition to this, there are many more programs available to homeowners, businesses and municipalities.

In Connecticut currently there is a rebate of \$2.27 per watt (up to 5kw) available on solar arrays. This is on top of the up to 30% tax credit from the Federal Government. This rebate is paid directly to the contractor so the homeowner does not have to wait.

There is a ZREC program being released this fall for businesses and municipalities that will help subsidize the cost of solar arrays up to 100 kw.

In the earlier round (for systems up to 1 mw), Enfield was able to get approval to put a carport system at the waste water treatment plant.

There are several towns participating in a program "SolarizeCT". SolarizeCT is a pilot program designed to encourage the adoption of residential solar PV by deploying a coordinated education, marketing and outreach effort, combined with a tiered pricing structure that provides increased savings to homeowners as more people in the community go solar.

The Solarize Ct pilot is based on a proven residential aggregation model designed to bring down the cost of solar PV when residents sign up for a pre-selected installer's offering. The more residents who sign up to install solar, the more the price decreases for everyone who participates. And because the installer, the technology and the exact price of PV are provided upfront, it is much easier for residents to make the decision to go solar.

## Generator (continued from Pg 1)

"Make sure you get the right unit for the right application," says Adam Pryor, service manager at Northeast Generator in Bridgeport. "You always want to buy bigger. If you do a load evaluation and think you can get away with an 8 kW, go with a 10 kW. You're putting more stress on the [smaller] machine. You're going to burn the thing out."

Standby generators typically run on natural gas or liquid propane. After the load evaluation, natural gas customers will get a gas evaluation. Depending on the generator, some homes

may not have adequate delivery pressure. The gas company would then have to install a higher-volume gas meter, at the homeowner's expense. Bob Brennan, a Connecticut Natural Gas spokesman, says that could cost about \$2,000.

A standby generator, like central air, requires zoning permits, electrical permits and any other permits required by your town. It's not like a portable that's wheeled out of the garage, primed and started like a lawn mower. A standby generator should last more than 20 years

— as long as it's used like one, only in emergencies.

Observe the usual caveats: Make sure the contractor is licensed, insured and has no complaints on file at the Better Business Bureau..

Never take shortcuts. This is a job best left for professionals. Some do-it-yourselfers have bought a cheap 5,000-watt portable, fashioned a cable to fit a 220-volt clothes-dryer outlet and "backfeed" the power into the house.

For more information, contact a licensed electrician.